

# The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

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## The Money Kings or Lords the Provision Dealers Who Have Been Charging the People Four or Five High Prices for All of the Food Products Which They Consume While They Have Been Engaged in Shipping Them to the War Nations of Europe, and the Manufacturers of Munitions of War with the Aid of Some of the Daily Newspapers Are on the Eve of Plunging This Country Into a Long Bloody War, so as to Enable the Money Kings or Lords to Collect Their Billions of Dollars Which They Have Advanced to the Allies

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN ISSUES A STIRRING ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

From time to time during the progress of the European War the money kings or lords of this country have been charging the people four or five times as much for the food products which they consume as they have ever paid for them. While at the same time shipping to the war nations of Europe the munitions of war and the provision dealers who have been growing fat and plump by robbing the people of this country, have at last worked up a plan to plunge this country into a long bloody war, simply to enable the money kings or lords and the other bloated millionaires to collect their billions of dollars which they have advanced to the Allies. These same cold blooded gentlemen are now in the habit of charging the people four or five times as much for the food products which they consume as they have ever paid for them. While at the same time shipping to the war nations of Europe the munitions of war and the provision dealers who have been growing fat and plump by robbing the people of this country, have at last worked up a plan to plunge this country into a long bloody war, simply to enable the money kings or lords and the other bloated millionaires to collect their billions of dollars which they have advanced to the Allies. These same cold blooded gentlemen are now in the habit of charging the people four or five times as much for the food products which they consume as they have ever paid for them. While at the same time shipping to the war nations of Europe the munitions of war and the provision dealers who have been growing fat and plump by robbing the people of this country, have at last worked up a plan to plunge this country into a long bloody war, simply to enable the money kings or lords and the other bloated millionaires to collect their billions of dollars which they have advanced to the Allies.

whether or whether not this country shall rush headlong into a bloody war with the fighting nations of the old world and Col. William Jennings Bryan has addressed the following timely address to the Congress of the United States: "To the members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives: Gentlemen—Exercising the citizen's right of petition, I appeal to you. The dispute with Germany has passed beyond the domain of diplomacy and some advise settlement by the sword. The metropolitan press, which tried to prevent the re-election of the President and failed, undismayed by a popular verdict of more than one-half million, now seeks to lash the country into a fury and urges the government to take part in the European conflict. "To you, and to you only, is given constitutional authority to declare war—war which in this case may mean the signing of the death warrants of thousands, even millions of your countrymen, and the laying of grievous burdens upon future generations. "Before you take this blood upon your hands, consider, I pray you, first, that the wrongs which you would punish, cruel and unjustifiable, as they are, are not intended primarily against this country, but are acts of desperation directed against other nations with which the offenders are at war. Second, that our land is not threatened with invasion, but that we are asked to go 3,000 miles for a chance to fight. Third, that we may not have the excuse for going to war that the Europeans had. U. S. Has Peace Plan. "They had no machinery for peace; we have a peace plan, offered by this nation to the world, and now embodied in thirty treaties with three quarters of the population of the globe. The plan has the indorsement of the president, the commendation of the Senate and the approval of the people at the polls. It provides for investigation of all disputes by an international tribunal before resort to war. "Fortunately, these treaties compel us to employ the plan with Great Britain, France, Italy and Russia before going to war with them. Germany formally approved the plan, although no treaty has yet been concluded with her. Shall we repudiate our own plan the first time we have an opportunity to employ it? If, as the President recently declared, the American people do not want war, is it not worth while to try the peace plan before bringing upon the people the horrors of war? "Until an attempt is made and fails, no one is able to say that it would be impossible to secure the suspension of 'ruthless' submarine warfare during the investigation, for which the plan provides? Shall we deny to ourselves the credit of trying to settle the dispute with the treaty plan? "And, is it not worth while to do our part in trying to avoid injury? Would it not be better, as well as cheaper for the government to carry on its own vessels such Americans as must

go to Europe, rather than engage in war to vindicate the right of citizens to disregard all risks and ride upon belligerent ships? "Is it not worth while to separate passengers from contraband cargoes so that the captains of passenger ships can give their entire attention to the safety of the passengers? Our nation is the world's foremost advocate of peace. If we go to war it should be for a cause which history will justify. Asks Referendum on War. "If you reach the conclusion that nothing but war will satisfy the nation's honor, is it too much to ask that, by a referendum, you consult the wishes of those who must, in case of war, defend the nation's honor with their lives? "As one who expects to live up to a citizen's duties, if war comes. I plead with you to use all honorable means to preserve peace before you take the responsibility of plunging our beloved land into this unprecedented struggle, begun without any sufficient cause and conducted by both sides in utter disregard of the well-settled rights of neutrals.

COLORED MEN AS SOLDIERS. The question "Will the Negro fight for the United States?" has been asked. Will The World, the most powerful and consistent friend the Negro has among American journals, permit me to answer it? The Negro is perhaps the most unselfish and consistently loyal citizen in this "melting-pot of the nations." He has never sided with an Anarchist, an assassin, a hyphenate, a traitor or an ingrate, and he has never refused to fight from 1619 to 1916 for his native land. The Negro has taken a patriotic part in every American war—Colonial Revolutionary, 1812. Mexican, Civil, Indian and Spanish. He was with Washington at Valley Forge and Yorktown, with Sullivan at the Battle of Long Island, with Perry on Lake Erie and Lawrence on the Chesapeake, with Jackson, at New Orleans, Scott in Mexico, Grant at Richmond, Miles on the Western plains, Dewey in Manila Bay, Sampson at Santiago, Roosevelt at San Juan Hill and Boyd at Carrizal. He was the first to shed, on Boston Common, the life-blood which proved to be the martyr's seed from which flowered the Revolution. He was first with Commodore Peary at the North Pole and last to leave Mexico with Gen. Pershing. You don't have to ask, "Will the Negro fight for the United States?" Ask those who have fought against him. This is our country, and we are among its truest and best-tried citizens. We have always refused, and we always shall refuse to even think of this as "a White man's country." It is not only the country of those for whom it does the most, but also of those who love it best and do the most for it. If another war comes—a war we would not provoke—the Negro will be found on the firing-line, as he has always been found, doing his utmost that

the Stars and Stripes shall never touch the ground in dishonor or be trailed in the dust of defeat. Crowded out of the militia, land and naval; denied the training necessary to officer, from West Point or Annapolis hundreds of thousands of the best fighters time has produced; refused the protection at home of the flag for which so much respect is claimed abroad; barred very largely from the political rights guaranteed him by the Constitution of the Nation he helped to create and to preserve—rights by which the citizen of a free republic can fully protect his civil and property interests, along with liberty and life—the Negro has remained unwaveringly loyal steadfast in patriotism and absolutely reliable in every national crisis. Give him the same chance in peace you gladly yield him in war, and he will demonstrate the same high type of worth in civil life that he has always shown on the battlefield against the enemies of the Nation, domestic or foreign. BECKWITH FREED AFTER ERBSTEIN FIST FIGHT. John W. Beckwith, former Municipal Court judge and at present an assistant of State's Attorney Hoyne, was cited into Judge Brothers' court Wednesday, to show why he shouldn't be punished for contempt of court. The citation followed a fist fight on Tuesday, in the corridor just outside the court. And Erbstein asked the court to be lenient, as "Mr. Beckwith has been punished enough." The judge let him go with a reprimand, telling him he had not upheld the dignity of an assistant state's attorney. Admits Striking Erbstein. "I will say frankly, your honor, that, as the culmination of several remarks made in this court yesterday. I slapped Erbstein's face," said Mr. Beckwith. "And then ran," said Erbstein. "Er, there was a woman screamed," explained Beckwith. "I didn't want to cause a scene. I reached the door. And then Erbstein jumped on my back and began pounding me. I brushed him off, and went downstairs." Erbstein Tells of Fight. "I struck back as soon as I could get my hands out of my pockets," Erbstein said. "I wasn't looking for such a lack of dignity on the part of an ex-judge, and wasn't prepared. It started from his saying he'd sprinkle me with cockroach powder—a gag that Frank Johnston, Jr., pulled a year ago. No, I wouldn't like to see Mr. Beckwith in jail, your honor. I think I punished him plenty." It seems that Messrs. Erbstein and O'Donnell are too much for the Hon. State's Attorney and his so-called able assistants for they have all become rattled and they delight to transform themselves into prize fighters. Eggs has dropped 10 cents per dozen in the last two weeks—Buy them now for The Amateur Minstrel Show—Easter Monday Night, 8th Regiment Armory.



MR. ROBERT HALL MCCORMICK.

ROBERT HALL MCCORMICK, REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR ALDERMAN, THE 21ST WARD. Julius F. Taylor, Editor, The Broad Ax: The Colored citizens of the 21st Ward appreciate your cordial endorsement of Mr. Robert H. McCormick, the Republican candidate for Alderman of our Ward. We are greatly interested in this election and we want to do all we can to give the Ward the benefit of his splendid ability and high ideals of public service. To the many Colored people living in this ward Mr. McCormick is no stranger. For more than fifty years the McCormick family has been known to Chicago Colored people and appreciated by them because of their uniform kindness in the employment of Colored help. They believe in giving every man a fair trial in the field of labor, and the Colored voters of the ward, knowing this fact are intensely interested in the election of one whom they know to be a friend. During Mr. McCormick's long term of service as Assistant State's Attorney he demonstrated clearly that he did not consider the question of color in dealing with persons charged with crime. On the contrary, he was absolutely fair to all defendants—gave them justice without regard to race, color or creed. MRS. E. AZALIA HACKLEY IS IN HER OLD HOME PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA AT THE PRESENT TIME. Mrs. E. Azalia Hackley, who so successfully conducted a Folk-Song Festival, in Baltimore, Md., last week and scored very heavily all along the line and added hundreds of new friends to her list in that city; has arrived in Philadelphia, Pa., where on Wednesday evening, April 4th, she will conduct a Queen's Pageant, for the Association for the protection of Colored women. From Philadelphia, she will travel to Washington, D. C., and from there on to Baltimore and she expects to arrive

All citizens should have a "square deal," in the field of labor, in political life and in the Courts of justice, and we who are most subject to discrimination should support for public office the persons whom we know to be free from taint of race prejudice. Mr. F. L. Barnett who served as Assistant State's Attorney with Mr. McCormick, commends our campaign and says that among all the assistants in the office, Mr. McCormick was the most considerate and friendly in his dealings with Colored people. During the week we have done much active service in the effort to enlist the interest of all Colored voters in the election next Tuesday. Colored voters—men and women—who go to the polls will vote for Mr. McCormick. Our only fear is that some may neglect to go to the polls and vote. We hope that Colored voters will remember that we are certain to have a "friend in Court" if Mr. McCormick is elected to the Council and "govern ourselves accordingly." Let us do our duty next Tuesday and vote before we go to work. Very respectfully, MRS. J. E. COUCH, 1408 N. Wells St. WM. C. BELL, 1540 Wieland St. MRS. WM. HOLLIDAY, 1340 Wells St. Pres. North Side Woman's Club. in Chicago in the early part of May. She has not yet fully recovered from an affection of one of her ears, but her many friends hope she will soon fully recover her health. FORMER HOYNE INVESTIGATOR INDICTED IN GRAFT CASE. William Porter, a Negro, formerly an investigator in State's Attorney Hoyne's office, was indicted by the grand jury Thursday on a charge of having induced Joseph Davis, a state's witness against Ald. Oscar De Priest, to leave the state. De Priest is under indictment for graft and bribery.